

## CHILD-LIFE.

"If our love were but more simple,  
We would take him at his word,  
And our lives would all be sunshine  
In the sweetness of our Lord."

Shall we ever, ever fathom the ultra-philosophic depths of that phrase—"As a little child"!

Jesus Christ, in his life on earth, gave to mankind the example of a perfect son, both in his relationship as Son of man and as Son of God. We read of his earthly parents, "He was subject unto them:"—and of his heavenly Father, "I came down from heaven not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me."

The Father's will—we hear the voice of Jesus ever repeating it. Listen—"I seek not mine own will, but the will the Father." "I am come in my Father's name." "I speak that which I have seen with my Father." . . . . "As my Father hath taught me." "I honor my Father." "Therefore, doth my Father love me." "My Father is greater than all." "I and my Father are one." In these extracts it is the voice of triumph; but it is the same spirit—the true child-like spirit of the Son—that replies, whilst bearing the will of the Father. "Nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt." "Thy will be done." And, finally, listen to the last glorious ring of that voice, "It is finished"—the perfect will of the Father perfectly accomplished. How? Because the child-life of Jesus was perfect in its obedience, it was merely an acquiescent reflection of the will of God.

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God." "and if children, then heirs; heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ." But we cannot be born unto God's family except by becoming a "little child;" then, and only then, commences the restful life of the true child of God—the life of freedom from care, regarding both this life and the next.

Why, then do so many go about as if the cares and responsibilities of a "father" were resting, or rather hanging, upon them when as yet they are only a child—not yet "a perfect man"? The cares and responsibilities are all the father's, the happy unquestioning obedience alone belongs to the child.

Is not a careworn, precocious child a very sore of nature?

Let us go humbly to our knees, here and now, and give up all doubts, all difficulties, all cares, little as well as big—

"Jesus to leave in his dear hand,  
Little things,  
All we cannot understand,  
All that stings."

Hand them over to God daily for evermore.

Only in this careless life of the child can the will of our Father be perfectly fulfilled. Listen once more—"I would have you without carefulness;" "Casting all your care upon Him;" "Be careful in nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." Amen.—*Bright Words.*

## GIVING HIMSELF.

Many years ago in Scotland a little boy went one day to a missionary meeting, where he was so much interested in what he heard about the people in other countries who knew nothing of the Father in heaven and of the message he has sent to the world by his Son, that his heart was deeply stirred, and he determined that if he should live to grow up, he would be a missionary himself, and go to the heathen and tell them about Jesus Christ. When the meeting was about to close, there was a notice given that a collection would be taken at the door. Now the boy had not a cent in his pocket, and as he was ashamed to go out and not make any contribution, he hung behind the rest of the people, hoping that the collectors would do their work and depart before he should appear. But as he was stealing toward the door, one of the men heard him, and turning held the plate toward him. The boy stood for a moment and looked at the man and then said quietly, "Please hold it a little lower, sir." The man complied with the request. "Lower still, sir," said the boy again. Again the man did as requested, half amused, half curious. "You had better put it on the ground," persisted the boy, and when this direction was followed, he stepped into the plate and glanced up with a smile, "It's all I have to give, sir," he said, "but if God will let me, I will be a missionary some day." And there was nobody in all the church that day who gave so much as the little lad with nothing in his pockets.—*Sel.*

## TRAPS.

Mrs. Marcy was looking over a box of scrap pictures and selecting some for a hospital screen. Harold was leaning over her shoulder, helping her choose the prettiest. Suddenly he exclaimed: "Oh, mamma, stop! What is that antelope hanging up in that basket for?"

"Look closely, dear, and see if you can't tell for yourself?"

"There are some wolves, and they are trying to get the antelope. But I can't see why it is hung up there in a basket. Is it alive?"

"Certainly. The antelope is fastened into the basket, and the basket is hung on the end of two bamboo poles. It is a lure for the wolves. Underneath the antelope a deep pit is dug, and covered loosely with brushwood. The cries of the antelope attract the wolves, and in their frantic efforts to reach it they leap upon the brushwood, which tumbles down, carrying the wolves into the pit with it. You see men are too cunning for the wolves, and tempt them to their death by hanging before their eyes something they like very much."

"I guess that's the way Satan does, mamma, when he wants to get men and boys into his pit."

"What bait does he use, Harold?"

"Well, mamma you know all boys like candy, and so that old Satan put it into somebody's head to put wine, and rum and brandy into candies, so as to teach boys to like drink."

"Where did you ever see such candies, Harold?"

"James Ray bought a box of tiny candy bottles to school one day, but I had read of them in my temperance paper. Old Satan can't catch me with that bait."

"Don't let him catch you with any bait, dear. Whatever is wrong is a trap of Satan's."—*Selected.*

Some very good people can never see any harm in sin while it can wear good clothes and ride in a coach.

"Providence," it is said, "provides for the provident." The diligent hand, the Book says, "shall be made rich." Improvidence is not commendable. Diligence in business, and care for the family, are in accord with true religion.